

THE CAMDEN WEEKLY CONFEDERATE.

"KNOWLEDGE IS POWER, AND THE PRESS IS THE ROYAL THRONE UPON WHICH SHE SITS, AN ENTHRONED MONARCH."

Vol. III

CAMDEN, S. C., WEDNESDAY MORNING, MAY 18, 1864.

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The Confederate

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LATEST ARMY NEWS.

From Texas, via Nassau.
WILMINGTON, May 13.—A letter from Nassau states that dates from Texas to the 6th inst. had been received there. General Smith and Price had many fights with Banks and Steele, in which our troops were always successful. The aggregate number of prisoners taken was 10,000; also, 41 cannon, 1000 wagons and horses and mules innumerable. Capt Scott, from Texas, says it is probable that both the Yankee armies would be captured. The Confederates had taken three gunboats and destroyed several others. Dick Taylor says he will take all. Our loss, in one or two engagements heavy.
The *Harriet Lane* and *Isabella* arrived at Havana from Texas.

Additional from the Trans-Mississippi Department.

DEMOPOLIS, ALA., May 13.—A despatch to day from Colonel Scott, via Summit, confirms the Trans-Mississippi despatches. They say General Taylor has Banks hemmed in at Alexandria and has a battery twenty-five miles below, stopping all communication via Red River. He is supported by Major Bridges' and Polignac's Infantry. He captured a transport and a valuable cargo of commissary stores, with 1000 prisoners, and the steamer City Belle, with the 120th Ohio Regiment on board, killing Colonel Madd, Colonel Bassett, of the *Corps de Afrique*, Colonel Ogil and one Lieutenant-Colonel.

On the 5th he crippled the steamer Warren, and captured transports Nos. 8 and 22, with twenty one pieces of artillery, including eight 32 pound Parrott guns, and their crews.

It was reported at Shreveport that General Smith and the enemy had a fight at Jenkins' Ford, in which he captured several hundred prisoners and many small arms, pontoon bridge and all their trains. We lost Gen. Learsey and Colonel Grimwood, killed, and Generals Wall, Randall and Clarke, wounded.

From New Orleans.

MOBILE, May 13.—The New Orleans *Era* of the 9th, says gold was selling at two for one and rising. All knowledge of Banks' defeat was ignored. Steele was reported at Little Rock, with Marmaduke between him and Pine Bluff, shelling the latter place.

Capture of an Entire Cavalry Force.

DALTON, May 9.—The entire cavalry command of Col. Lagrange, composed of troops from Indiana and Wisconsin, were captured near Varnell's Station today by Gen. Wheeler. Colonel Lagrange had two horses killed under him. The prisoners have just arrived.

A heavy cannonading is in progress in our front.

DALTON, May 11.—This is another day of the siege in front of Dalton. No result yet. The enemy continues timed, evidently feeling for a weak point through our lines of defence. The enemy still occupies Sugar Valley, on our left.—Our cavalry have been skirmishing on the Cleveland road.

Captain G. E. Marsh, of the 40th Alabama, was killed in the assault this morning, and Colonel Francis badly wounded. Skirmishing has continued in front—occasionally heavy—with rapid shelling. It is now evident that the enemy will either attack us in flank or rear. The weather is cold and rainy.

Yankee News from Louisiana.

SENATOBIA, MISS., May 7.—The St. Louis *Democrat* of the 4th inst. contains, as has been received here. It contains advice from Alexandria, La., to the 24th ult. Banks' army was at that place fortifying. They claim a victory at Cane Creek on the retreat from Grand Ecore, the rebels having followed them. Guerrillas are infesting the river. The steamer Hastings was captured and burned. The *Chicago Times* of the 3d says the Federal prospects in the Department of the Gulf do not wear an encouraging aspect.

The New York *Tribune's* special says the Government possesses information showing Banks' disaster greater than ever before supposed. The *Memphis Bulletin* of the 6th contains a report of Admiral Porter, admitting that affairs are very disagreeable.

The steamer Grant brings advices from Little Rock of the 24. 2400 of Steele's men had arrived and the balance were twenty five miles out.

Steele's loss had been heavy. He had to destroy all his trains, and lost nearly all his artillery. He had been followed by Fagin and Marmaduke all the way, and had a severe fight at Saline river.

The New York *World* says there are three hundred administration spies in that city. The *Caucasian* says they cost fifty thousand dollars a month.

A Blockade Steamer Captured.

TALLAHASSEE, May 9.—Mr. J. K. Harris, who has just arrived at Quincy from West Florida, states that the blockade steamer off Apalachicola was captured, with all on board, about 150 men, last night, by an expedition of launchers. No loss on our side.

Further particulars not yet received.

From the West.

MERIDIAN, May 13.—A force of Yankees under Gen. Mearther, variously estimated at from five to eight thousand, was at Pickens Station, on the Mississippi Central Railroad, at noon today, moving towards Granada. Five thousand were at Big Black Bridge. Gen. H. W. Slocumb is commanding at Vicksburg.

From Virginia.

PETERSBURG, May 15.—It is rumored that the enemy attacked Drewry's Bluff last night and were repulsed, having lost 1,000 men. Gen. Nat. Ransom was wounded in the arm slightly. No other news from any quarter.

From the Front.

RESACA, May 13, via ATLANTA, May 14.—There has been considerable skirmishing this evening before Resaca. The enemy shelled till dark.

Several houses were struck, but no damage was done.

CALHOUN, May 14.—Yesterday, Kilpatrick's cavalry were gallantly repulsed by Grigsby's Ky. cavalry near Resaca.

Kilpatrick is reported mortally wounded.

Loring and Cheatham's division then became severally engaged, severely repulsing the enemy.

Colonel Stanton, of the 28th Tennessee, was killed.

Gen. Hardee had two horses shot under him. Our loss slight.

A heavy engagement commenced this morning near Titon.

This morning on our right at 10, Stewart's and Stevenson's divisions repulsed the enemy four times with great slaughter, we capturing a large number of prisoners.

Our loss is severe.

The fight is still progressing. The enemy resists stubbornly.

There has been shelling and slight skirmishing near Calhoun all day.

The enemy are crossing now four miles from Calhoun and are held in check by Maston's cavalry.

A general engagement is expected to-morrow. All confident and hopeful.

From Petersburg.

YANKES DRIVEN TO THEIR GUNBOATS—SIX GUNBOATS SUNK.

RALEIGH, May 13.—A letter from a special Press Reporter, sent to Weldon on yesterday from this place; by request General Superintendent. Thrasher, on reaching that place found the wires down to Goldsboro, hence wrote a letter to this place, as follows:

WELDON, May 12.—The Conductor on a Government train from Stony Creek to Gaston today reports that Gen. Beauregard has driven the yankees to their gunboats around Petersburg, and that he had sunk six of the enemy's gunboats.

Nine blockade runners have come into Wilmington since the ironclad Raleigh, scattered the blockading squadron a few days ago. Five of them are entirely new vessels, on their first trip. They saw no sign of the blockaders.

Tragic Mistake.

A few days ago, as the 17th North Carolina Regiment was passing Rocky Mount, a soldier of that regiment, Hoggans, of Edgecomb county, was traveling home on foot, musket in hand, by moonlight. As he journeyed he was startled by the sight of a dark object, like a bear, drinking at a branch which crossed the road. Cocking his gun at a distance of about seventy yards, he carefully watched the movements of the animal, which, after stooping over the water for a few moments, partly rose and started forward. The soldier fired with deadly aim. The animal fell and struggled convulsively on the ground. Afraid to approach lest its powers of doing mischief should not be exhausted, the soldier ran to the house of a Mr. Brooke, and begged him to arm himself with an axe, and aid in securing the body. With cautious steps, and weapons ready for instant use, they approached the supposed bear, when, instead of that beast there appeared to their horrified eyes the body of a soldier, wetting in his blood, quite dead! The right hand of the corpse tightly clasped a tooth brush, which no doubt he was using when the fatal ball took effect.

The ball entered near the backbone, and passed diagonally through the body, coming out in front. The victim had staggered toward across the branch and was lying on his face. Papers in his pocket showed that he was a member of the 66th regiment, named Ballard, of Wayne county, and that he was on his way to Wilson, on furlough, to collect \$180 there due him. An examination of the case was had before two magistrates, who discharged the involuntary manslaughter without bail. He evinced deep distress the consequences of his unfortunate mistake.

Free Masons may be curious to know their strength in the world's population. From very accurate statistics, we can state that in the New and in the Old World there are 8,258 lodges, with 200,000 active members. The number of non-active and those who have withdrawn is nearly 3,000,000.

J. T. HERSHMAN—Editor.

Camden, Wednesday, May 18

Col. J. D. Kennedy.

Our fellow townsman, Col. J. D. KENNEDY, returned home on Monday evening, and we understand is doing as well as the nature of his wound will allow. He speaks very encouragingly of the condition of our cause at this time.

Convalescent.

It will no doubt be gratifying to the many friends and admirers of the Rev. JOHN T. WIGHTMAN, to know that he is fast recovering from his recent severe illness, and that his pastoral charge may again have the pleasure of listening to his eloquent teachings—perhaps on next Sabbath.

Declinations.

Maj. JOHN M. DESAUSURE respectfully declines being a candidate for Senator, and tenders his kind acknowledgments to those of his friends who were desirous of his election.

Also, Col. WM. R. TAYLOR and JOHN R. SHAW, Esq., declines running for the office of Clerk of the Court of Common Pleas and General Sessions.

By reference to a communication over the signature of "A Lady of Camden," it will be seen that the genius and indomitable energy of our ladies have not lessened in any particular. The communication referred to gives a receipt for the manufacture of "Straw Hats," and is presented in a very clear form, so that it could not be otherwise than comprehensive to the mind of all who may read it, and especially to those possessing a talent and desire to render comfortable the heads of their lords and brothers.

The specimens of platted straw left with us for exhibition, is equal to any we have ever seen. If there be any who cannot altogether understand the process, as given in the receipt, of preparing the straw, the lady will take pleasure in explaining, the same.

Hail!

On Monday last a portion of our district was visited by an unusually heavy rain and hail storm. The frequent fall of rain during the past week, has made the farmer's heart to feel glad, and has caused vegetation of all kinds to spring up with great rapidity—in fact has given new life to every species of a summer's crop. Though in some parts of the district we hear complaint, owing to the prolongation of the present rainy season.

Card of Thanks.

Capt. W. CLYBURN requests us to return his sincere thanks to the ladies of the Camden Aid Association for 15 pair shoes, 25 pair drawers, 25 shirts, &c., tendered to his command whilst on Morris Island, and regrets that owing to his having been taken prisoner by the enemy, a few days after their reception, he was unable to tender his acknowledgments to the fair, liberal and patriotic donors.

The Recent Battles in Virginia.

The number of casualties from this place, in the late battles, we have reason to fear, will be considerable, as we had no less than eleven or twelve companies representing our district, besides many field and staff-officers, some of the noblest of whom, we regret to say, has beyond doubt fallen martyrs to this glorious but dearly purchased victory. In the casualties we find the names of Col. JOHN D. KENNEDY, wounded; ALFRED D. DOBY, of Gen. KERSHAW's staff, killed; and MARCUS BAUM, at the time occupying a prominent position, killed.

Below we give the list of casualties in Col. KENNEDY's Regiment, which is small, considering their exposed position in the engagement.

The alarm, in consequence of the enemy holding the Petersburg and Danville railroads, has been much greater than the extent of the seizure would guarantee. We learn through an undoubted source, that the Yankees only held the Danville road for a few hours, and was driven back successfully; and ere this the enemy has been forced back from the Petersburg road. Our victory is said to be most complete, with a very destructive loss of many thousands to the enemy, who were repulsed at every charge notwithstanding the stubborn resistance they offered; and it is said that the entire Yankee army in Virginia is in a thoroughly demoralized state. Our troops are in good condition, and buoyant spirits prevail throughout our forces.

Never has there been a period, during this war, when our cause looked brighter than at the present.

Casualties.

Richmond, May 8.—C. P. Pegram: Casualties in second South Carolina regiment, Col. Kennedy commanding—second day's fight:

STAFF—Lieut. Col. F. Gaillard, killed; Col. Kennedy, wounded severe in right shoulder.

Company A.—None.

Company B.—Killed: W A Smyer and W P Turpin. Wounded: G T Anderson, thigh, severe; W Garmany, wrist fractured; L P Hawkings, face; P D Roe, ear, slight; S J C Carpenter, arm, severe; R Shumate, thigh, slight.

Company C.—Killed: None. Wounded: Sergt Youmans, mortally; R Wilson, arm, flesh.

Company D.—Killed: None. Wounded: Capt J Graham, arm, flesh; J Wilard, head, slight; C C Wheeler, head, slight; H Wadkins, head, slight.

Company E.—Killed: None. Wounded: R J Pearson, leg, slight. Corp'l J Monroe, ankle, slight; R W Proctor, arm, slight.

Company F.—Killed: Thomas Harris, John Hutchinson, Lieut Coon, J V Pinson. Wounded: Capt Vange, face; Sergeant Boozer, foot, slight; Corporal J J Chipley, arm, severe; F J Hughey, hand and thigh, severe; J M Robinson, chest, severe; J S Shepherd, hip, severe; G M Rampey, thigh, severe; P M Fuller, thigh, severe; A Malone, foot, slight; J R Purson, leg, slight.

Company G.—Killed: None. Wounded: Sergeant Marchison, head, severe; Jno Rowe, foot.

Company H.—Killed: None. Wounded: R Kennington, arm, broken.

Company I.—Killed: Sergt W P Wescoat. Wounded: J Brown, slightly.

Company K.—Killed: None. Wounded: Sergt F C Ferriere, slight; J M Benson, arm broken; W P Bell, slight.

This regiment was not engaged in the first day's fight: T. A. LAFAR.

[FOR THE CAMDEN CONFEDERATE.]

Straw for Summer Hats.

MR. EDITOR: Seeing an appeal in the *Charleston Courier*, a few days since, to the ladies, for some plan of manufacturing hats for summer wear, it has induced me to give the following directions for making pretty, light and durable hats of the "Rye Straw," which can be procured in all parts of our Confederacy, and made up by any one. Any carpenter can make a block the size of the persons head, to press the hats, after being sewed.

Now is the time, while the grain is "in the milk," to cut and prepare in the following manner: Cut off the tops about half a foot and dip the rest in a large pot of boiling water, being careful that it all gets wet; then spread thin in the hot sun, turning it every day and taking it in from the rain, as it injures the texture of the straw and causes it to mildew; the dews help to bleach, therefore let it remain out at night. In seven or eight days it will be sufficiently white for use. You then cut it from joint to joint, removing the husk, next dip it in cold or hot water and then let the water run through the straw to moisten it (as you can do nothing with it in a dry state) and split in half, with a dull knife, or better, the half of a pair of old scissors, and after giving it a scrape or two to soften it, you draw it through a small machine made for the purpose, by MR. ISAAC B. ALEXANDER or MR. MCCREIGHT. It is then ready for plating.

"A LADY OF CAMDEN."

Matrimonial.

The undersigned (a colored man) desires to open a correspondence with some one of the young ladies of New York, who lately presented a flag, with their love, to a regiment of colored men. The correspondence to be opened with a view to matrimony. The undersigned is about twenty-eight years old, black eyes, dark complexion, (some might call it very dark,) short, curly hair, (very curly,) and wears a shoe number fourteen and a half.

Not wishing to be boastful, but the undersigned flatters himself that there is not a colored gentleman in Virginia more loudly odoriferous in hot weather.

No lady, who has not means sufficient to start me respectfully in the oyster or pie business, need reply to this communication.

All communications confidential. Address WASH, (Colored Man.)

Cutts' Battalion.

New York papers please copy, and send their bills to my cousin, Hannibal Hamblin, Washington city.—*Richmond Examiner*

The Medical Board.

On yesterday the second meeting of the new Medical Board for this Congressional District, composed of Drs. CLAY, EVIS and DUNCAN, took place at Capt. DARTNER'S Enrolling office. We were not present during any of the examinations, but learn that their urbanity of manner in the prompt and faithful discharge of the onerous duties imposed on them, resulted to the entire satisfaction of all who presented themselves for examination. The position of either enrolling officer or examining surgeon is unenviable to a great extent, and are apt to have heaped upon their devoted heads the wrath of the malinger.

The number accepted for active service (during the two meetings) were 70; those recommended for light duty, 15—total 85. We have heard but little, if any complaint made with reference to the decisions of those gentlemen, and so conclude that each man for himself submitted cheerfully, if not willingly, to what might be termed a "military necessity."

An Enormous Aeronaut.

A late French journal relates the following well invented story, which, it will be seen, is French all over:

While Mons. Godard was filling an immense balloon in the Champ de Mars, he amused the spectators by sending up the small figure of a man, the perfect semblance of M. Thiers, without spectacles. The little man being filled with gas, rose majestically into the air and was soon lost to view among the clouds. His adventures, which became known the next day, were curious.—Thanks to a strong and favorable gale, which impelled him on his course, the little balloon man arrived the same afternoon in the sight of a fine country house in the neighborhood of Dievor.—It was near the hour of dinner, and the lady of the mansion, naturally thought herself perfectly safe, was occupied in the mysteries of her toilet.

It was a warm day, and she had opened one of the windows which looked out upon the park, and was safe from any prying eyes. While tranquilly engaged, by the assistance of corset lacing, in reducing her waist to a size and shape that would reflect credit on her husband's taste she was suddenly startled by a blast of wind, followed by a strange noise; immediately the casement was thrown open, and our little balloon man entered her chamber unannounced. The lady utters a cry of terror, and throws a shawl over her shoulders. The little man, driven by the wind, throws himself upon the unhappy woman, who, screaming louder than ever, pushes him off, and he conceals himself under the bed.

Just as the wife, in a supplicating voice, says to this novel Don Juan, "Ah, Monsieur, go away, or you will ruin me!" the husband furiously rushed in, crying, "Ah, the wretch, I have him now!" and goes in search of his sword to run him through the body. The wife, more dead than alive, reiterates in the midst of sobs, "Fly, fly Monsieur, and save me the sight of this dreadful tragedy!"

The husband arrives, armed to the teeth, followed by the whole household, who seek to mollify his anger. While two of his friends hold the husband, a third stooping down, perceives our little friend, who, for good cause, uttered not a word, and catching him by the leg, drawing him forth from his concealment—when, lo! Monsieur Balloon, no longer held down by the bedstead, raises himself erect, swells out, and rises majestically to the ceiling, to the immense amusement of the spectators; while the poor jealous husband slinks away, sword and all, heartily ashamed of his causeless wrath.

The National Debt Measured and Weighed.

MR. JOHN FAIR, a calculating machine of New York city, thus measures and weighs four thousand millions of dollars, in which he assumes is, or is to be, the National Debt:

It has been said that this debt is so great that it is too vast for comprehension. Now as a practical man I propose to weigh it and measure it, that we may thereby obtain a more definite idea of its immensity.

A silver dollar measures 1 1/2 inches in diameter; 8 dollars placed edge to edge will make one foot in length, 24 so placed will make one yard in length, and 41,240 so placed will make one mile in length. The earth is 21,600 miles in circumference. It would, therefore, require \$812,384,000 to go once around it. This vast sum must be multiplied by four and four-tenths to make it equal the amount of our National debt, which would make the silver dollars go around the earth's circumference four times, and cover 8,540 miles besides.

Allowing a silver dollar to weigh an ounce, 16 to a pound, 2000 pounds to the ton, our debt would weigh 125,000 tons, and would require 125 ships of 1000 tons burthen each to carry it.

It would make 62,500 truck loads, of two tons each, and calculating that each truck will cover a space of 30 feet they would stretch a distance of 355 miles, and make a chain of trucks which would encompass the great cities of New York, Albany and Troy in an elliptical line. It would take a man 865 years and 40 days to count the amount of this vast debt, estimating that he would count \$60 per minute working ten hours a day and six days a week.

WIT AND WISDOM.

"A beautiful day, Mr. Jenkins.—Yes, very pleasant indeed. Good day for the race." "Race—what race?" "The human race." "Oh go long with your stupid jokes; get up; a good one, like the one with which I sold day." "Day—what day?"

"The day we celebrate," said Jenkins, who went on his way rejoicing.

A wag called out aloud in the pit of Drury Lane Theatre:

"Mr. Smith, your house is on fire!" whereupon a huddled and twenty-five Smiths arose.

"It is Mr. John Smith's house," said he; and thirty sat down, showing but ninety-five genuine John Smiths present!

ALFRED CUMMING, lately Governor of Utah, has returned to his old home in Augusta, Ga.,—no doubt delighted, after an official residence in Mormondom and a pilgrimage though Yankeeedom, to get back into Christendom.

We never respect persons who aim simply to amuse us. There is a vast difference between those we call amusing men and those we denominate entertaining; we laugh with the former, and reflect with the latter.

SECRET kindness done to mankind are as beautiful as secret injuries are detestable. To be invisibly good is as godlike as to be invisibly evil is diabolical.

A Western paper announcing the death of a gentleman in Iowa, says:—"He was a great admirer of Horace Greeley, but otherwise a very respectable man."

A wag was once heard to say, that the difference between the Southern and Northern people is, those in the South never sell anything they can eat, while those in the North never eat anything they can sell.

Skepticism has never founded empires, established principles or changed the world's heart. The great doers in history have always been men of faith.

Every year that glides over our heads is a land mark—a moss-covered mile stone—on our journey, to another land.

We commence by being in love with our own thoughts, and follow by seeking to make others worship them.

The seeds of repentance are sown in youth by pleasure, but the harvest is reaped in age by pain.—*Cotton*

Our Indian Allies.

The Southern States, from the first settlement of this Continent by Europeans, have found, in many cases, faithful friends and allies in the Indians. Deceived by foreign emissaries, some of the tribes often attempted war or treachery, but others have ever been true and faithful to their stipulations as the once great nation of the "Catawba," which will soon only exist as a name. The *Richmond Enquirer* gives extracts from private letters showing that our late successes "over the river" have been enlarged by the efforts of our Indian allies: FIRST INDIAN BRIGADE, CAMP LONG-STREET, CHOCTAW NATION, March 30, 1866.

"It is reported that a heavy force of the enemy from Fort Smith is on the march to clear out the Indian Nations: it probably numbers ten regiments, or four or five thousand men. So you see we are likely to have some fun soon. Stand Watie now commands the First Indian Brigade, is in fine spirits, full of confidence, and anxious to meet the enemy. Look out for stirring news from us."

In an other letter of later date this writer says:

"We have met the enemy and they are ours, that is, what's left of them. Old Stand, with a portion of his brigade, attacked the enemy, 1500 strong, thirty miles from Boggy Depot. He fought them until dark, and retreated several miles, leaving the Yankees in full possession of the battle field, and under the pleasant delusion that Stand Watie was whipped—but Watie out-Yanked them this time. In the still hours of the night, when the Turk was dreaming of the hour, Stand Watie and his out-throats as the Yankees uncharitably call us, fell upon the slumbering Yankees and scattered them to the four winds. We captured six hundred horses and equipments, hundreds of arms, and literally smashed them 'into a cocked hat.'"

There is little doubt but this force, so roughly handled by Stand Watie, was a part of Thayer's column. From the swamps of Florida to the prairies of the Indian country, our successes run unbroken.

Our Indian allies, under Stand Watie and others, who have never wavered in the darkest hours of our struggle, who have sacrificed their all to the great cause of Southern liberty, will ever be gratefully remembered by the people of the Confederate States.

A detail of about 250 of General Ross' cavalry lately made a successful onslaught upon the nest of Tories who have been depreeding upon the loyal people of Marion county, Alabama. They returned with a few prisoners, yet having thoroughly accomplished their mission. The "accursed" trees in the neighborhood of their vigorous little campaign, bear some signal warnings to all traitors and deserters, who have the temerity to take up arms against the Confederate Government.